

The New Jersey State Parole Board Street Gang Unit is dedicated to elevating gang awareness statewide. If your law enforcement agency, school, or community organization would be interested in further information about gangs, or wishes to participate in one of our gang awareness training seminars, please contact:

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**Mission Statement**

The New Jersey State Parole Board is committed to promoting public safety and to fostering rehabilitation of offenders by implementing policies that result in effective parole case management.



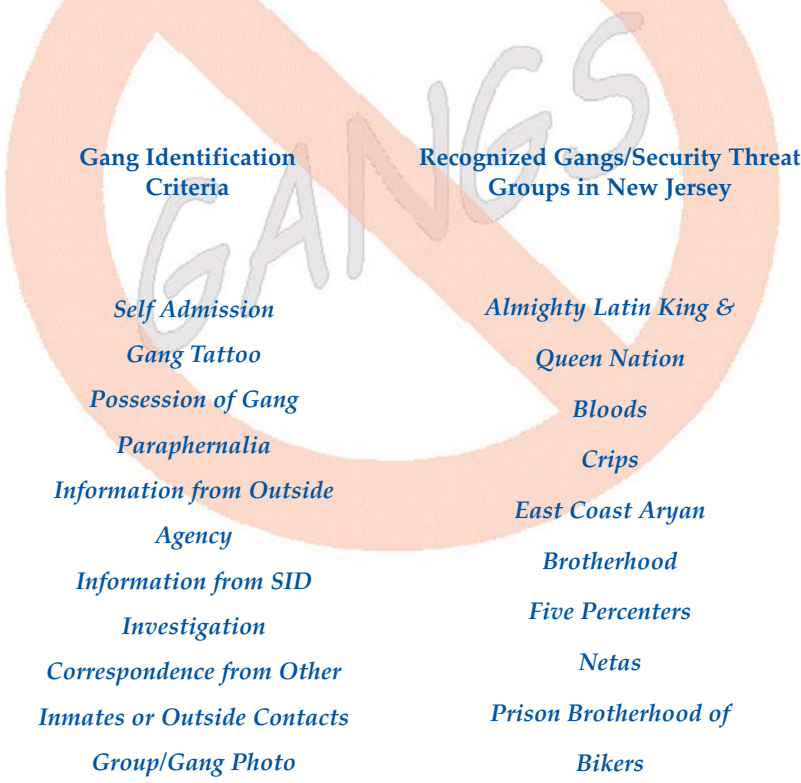
**New Jersey State Parole Board**

Governor Jon S. Corzine  
Chairman John D’Amico  
171 Jersey Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08611  
[www.state.nj.us/parole/](http://www.state.nj.us/parole/)

**New Jersey State Parole Board  
Street Gang Unit**

Committed to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for all of New Jersey’s residents.

**G . R . A . S . P .  
Gang Reduction & Aggressive  
Supervised Parole**



## What is a Gang?

Gang members share a unique name or have identifiable marks such as tattoos, colored clothing and graffiti marks. They associate together on a regular basis and sometimes claim a specific territory or “turf.” They engage in antisocial, unlawful or criminal activity.



Lt. Daniel Riccardo of the SPB Street Gang Unit educates the public on gang related issues.

### Gangs and potential gang members are identified by:

- \* Gang Colors
- \* Clothing/style of dress
- \* graffiti
- \* Hand signs/symbols
- \* Gang writing/codes

## G.R.A.S.P. - Gang Reduction & Aggressive Supervised Parole

Due to the dramatic increase in gang activity and related crimes in New Jersey, it became apparent to law enforcement officials that no one agency could be as effective against gangs as several agencies working together sharing resources and information.

The G.R.A.S.P. program is a special law enforcement partnership unit composed of officers from the New Jersey Division of Parole Street Gang Unit, The New Jersey State Police Street Gang Unit and The New Jersey Department of Corrections. It was developed in 2002 and modeled after a program that was initiated in Chicago. The purpose of the program is to identify, monitor and aggressively supervise parolees who were identified as gang members while incarcerated and to ensure strict compliance with the terms of their parole. Developing confidential sources of information and strict parole enforcement are critical components of this program.

A team of law enforcement personnel from the partnering agencies, along with local police, will make unannounced home visits and conduct interviews at the District Parole Offices with parolees identified as gang members in order to verify parole

compliance and to obtain gang related information.

Presently there are some 1000 identified gang members being supervised on parole. Approximately 17,000 individuals have been identified as gang members in the State of New Jersey. The highest concentrations of gang members are in:

- \* Paterson      \* Jersey City
- \* Newark      \* Camden

Gangs have spread out into suburbia at a record pace. Intelligence that is developed as a result of G.R.A.S.P. operations is shared with **ALL** law enforcement agencies to help them reduce the flow of guns and drugs into New Jersey.



Drugs and guns confiscated during a raid.